AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling a computer that processes data formatted in a first format to read a data unit that is formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) dispatching, from said computer to said storage subsystem, a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of said data unit;

(b) sending, from said storage subsystem to said computer, a value of said data length;

that enables said based on the value of the data length that is received at the computer, determining to determine whether said data unit is in said first format or in said second format and prepare preparing for receipt of said data unit, in said first format or said second format, having said data length;

(c) dispatching, from said computer to said storage subsystem, a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

(d) sending said data unit from said storage subsystem to said computer.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said first format is a count, key and data (CKD) format and said second format is a small computer standard interface (SCSI) format.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, A method for enabling a computer that

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processes data formatted in a first format to read a data unit that is formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, said method comprising:

dispatching, from said computer to said storage subsystem, a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of said data unit;

sending, from said storage subsystem to said computer, a value of said data length that enables said computer to determine whether said data unit is in said first format or in said second format and prepare for receipt of said data unit having said data length;

dispatching, from said computer to said storage subsystem, a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

sending said data unit from said storage subsystem to said computer;

wherein said storage subsystem includes a logical cylinder 0 that is reserved for administrative data that is used by said computer, and

wherein said method further comprises, before ~~step (a)~~ dispatching, bypassing said cylinder 0 when writing data in said second format to said storage subsystem.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said administrative data is a volume label and a volume table of contents in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) storage protocol.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method for enabling a computer that processes data formatted in a first format to read a data unit that is formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, said method comprising:

dispatching, from said computer to said storage subsystem, a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of said data unit;

sending, from said storage subsystem to said computer, a value of said data length that enables said computer to determine whether said data unit is in said first format or in said second format and prepare for receipt of said data unit having said data length;

dispatching, from said computer to said storage subsystem, a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

sending said data unit from said storage subsystem to said computer;

further comprising, before ~~step (d)~~ sending said data unit from said storage system to said computer, ~~the step of~~ appending, by said storage subsystem, a header to said data unit to enable said computer to process said data unit when said data unit is in said second format.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said header includes a home address, a record 0, and a count field in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) storage protocol.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said computer backs up said data unit in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) backup procedure.

8. (Currently Amended) A system in which a computer that processes data formatted in a first format is enabled to read data formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, comprising:

a computer including:

means for dispatching a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of ~~said~~ a data unit;

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means for determining whether said data unit is in said first format or said second format based on said data length;

means for receiving said data unit, in said first format or said second format, having said data length,

means for dispatching a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

a storage subsystem including:

means for sending a value of said data length to said computer; and

means for sending said data unit to said computer.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said first format is a count, key and data (CKD) format and said second format is a small computer standard interface (SCSI) format.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 8,~~ A system in which a computer that processes data formatted in a first format is enabled to read data formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, comprising:

a computer including:

means for dispatching a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of said data unit;

means for determining whether said data unit is in said first format or said second format based on said data length;

means for receiving said data unit, in said first format or said second format, having said data length,

means for dispatching a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

a storage subsystem including:

means for sending a value of said data length to said computer; and

means for sending said data unit to said computer;

wherein said storage subsystem includes a logical cylinder 0 that is reserved for administrative data that is used by said computer, and

wherein said storage subsystem bypasses said cylinder 0 when writing data in said second format to said storage subsystem.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein said administrative data is a volume label and a volume table of contents in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) storage protocol.

12. (Currently Amended) A system in which a computer that processes data formatted in a first format is enabled to read data formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, comprising:

a computer including:

means for dispatching a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of said data unit;

means for determining whether said data unit is in said first format or said second format based on said data length;

means for receiving said data unit, in said first format or said second format, having said data length,

means for dispatching a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

a storage subsystem including:

means for sending a value of said data length to said computer; and

means for sending said data unit to said computer;

wherein said storage subsystem appends a header to said data unit to enable said computer to process said data unit when said data unit is in said second format.

13. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said computer backs up said data unit in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) backup procedure.

14. (Currently Amended) A storage media that includes instructions for controlling a system in which a computer that processes data formatted in a first format is enabled to read a data unit that is formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, said storage media comprising:

(a) ~~means for controlling~~ instructions to control said computer to dispatch to said storage subsystem a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of said data unit;

(b) ~~means for controlling~~ instructions to control said storage subsystem to send to said computer

a value of said data length;

~~that enables said~~ instructions, responsive to the value of the data length that is received at the computer, to determine whether said data unit is in said first format or in said second format and to prepare for receipt of said data unit, in said first format or said second format, having said data length;

~~(c) means for controlling~~ instructions to control said computer to dispatch to said storage subsystem a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

~~(d) means for controlling~~ instructions to control said storage subsystem to send said data unit to said computer.

15. (Original) The storage media of claim 14, wherein said first format is a count, key and data (CKD) format and said second format is a small computer standard interface (SCSI) format.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The storage media of claim 14,~~ A storage media that includes instructions for controlling a system in which a computer that processes data formatted in a first format is enabled to read a data unit that is formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, said storage media comprising:

(a) means for controlling said computer to dispatch to said storage subsystem a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of said data unit;

(b) means for controlling said storage subsystem to send to said computer a value of said data length that enables said computer to determine whether said data unit is in said first format or in said second format and prepare for receipt of said data unit, in said first format or said second format, having said data length;

(c) means for controlling said computer to dispatch to said storage subsystem a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

(d) means for controlling said storage subsystem to send said data unit to said computer;

wherein said storage subsystem includes a logical cylinder 0 that is reserved for administrative data that is used by said computer, and

wherein said storage media further comprises means for controlling said storage subsystem to bypass said cylinder 0 when writing data in said second format to said storage subsystem.

17. (Original) The storage media of claim 16, wherein said administrative data is a volume label and a volume table of contents in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) storage protocol.

18.(Currently Amended) ~~The storage media of claim 14,~~ A storage media that includes instructions for controlling a system in which a computer that processes data formatted in a first format is enabled to read a data unit that is formatted in a second format from a storage subsystem that is capable of storing data in either said first format or said second format, said storage media comprising:

(a) means for controlling said computer to dispatch to said storage subsystem a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of said data unit;

(b) means for controlling said storage subsystem to send to said computer a value of said data length that enables said computer to determine whether said data unit is in said first format or in said second format and prepare for receipt of said data unit, in said first format or said second format, having said data length;

(c) means for controlling said computer to dispatch to said storage subsystem a command for

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said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer; and

(d) means for controlling said storage subsystem to send said data unit to said computer;

further comprising means for controlling said storage subsystem to append a header to said data unit to enable said computer to process said data unit when said data unit is in said second format.

19. (Original) The storage media of claim 18, wherein said header includes a home address, a record 0, and a count field in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) storage protocol.

20. (Original) The storage media of claim 14, wherein said computer backs up said data unit in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) backup procedure.

21. (New) A system comprising a computer that processes data formatted in a first format and a storage subsystem capable of storing data in either said first format or a second format, said computer comprising circuitry that operates under control of a program to dispatch a command for said storage subsystem to report a data length of a stored data unit, to determine whether said data unit is in said first format or said second format based on the data length reported by said storage subsystem, to receive the data unit, in said first format or said second format, having the reported data length, and to dispatch a command for said storage subsystem to forward said data unit to said computer, said storage subsystem comprising circuitry for sending the value of the data length to said computer and to send said data unit to said computer.

22. (New) The system of claim 21, where said first format is a count, key and data (CKD) format and said second format is a small computer standard interface (SCSI) format.

23. (New) The system of claim 21, where said storage subsystem comprises a logical cylinder 0 that is reserved for administrative data that is used by said computer, and circuitry to bypass cylinder 0 when writing data in said second format.

24. (New) The system of claim 23, where said administrative data comprises a volume label and a volume table of contents in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) storage protocol.

25. (New) The system of claim 21, where said storage subsystem appends a header to said data unit to enable said computer to process said data unit when said data unit is in said second format.

26. (New) The system of claim 21, where said computer backs up said data unit in accordance with a multiple virtual storage (MVS) backup procedure.